

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 25-30 and 41-54 are set forth below for the Examiner's convenience.

1. to 24. (Cancelled).

25. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus comprising:

a first unit for converting primary color data into color data for outputting a dark color material only in a first mode, wherein the primary color has any two of maximum values and one of minimum value of colors R, G and B; and

a second unit for converting the primary color data having any two of maximum values and one of minimum values of colors R, G and B into color data for outputting both the dark color material and a light color material in a second mode, wherein

the color data converted from the primary color data in the second mode is color data for outputting both the dark color material corresponding to a complementary color of the minimum value of colors and light ink material other than the complementary color of the minimum value of colors.

26. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus of claim 25, wherein the first mode is a fast printing mode and the second mode is a mode in which image quality is higher than that in the first mode.

27. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus of claim 25, wherein the first mode is a mode for lowering granularity and the second mode is a mode for color matching.

28. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus of claim 25, wherein the dark color materials are K, C, M and Y inks.

29. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus of claim 25, wherein the light color materials are light cyan and light magenta inks.

30. (Previously Presented) An image processing apparatus for forming an image by using dark color materials and light color materials, the apparatus comprising:

a first unit for forming an image by using just the dark color material for reproducing primary color data in a first mode, wherein

the primary color has any two of maximum values and one of minimum value of colors R, G and B; and

a second unit for forming an image by using the dark color material and a light color material having a different color from the dark color material for reproducing the primary color data having any two of maximum values and one of minimum values of colors R, G and B in a second mode, wherein

the image formed in the second mode is formed by using both the dark color material corresponding to a complementary color of the minimum value of colors and light ink material other than the complementary color of the minimum value of colors.

31. to 40. (Cancelled).

41. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus of claim 25, wherein the primary color data is a color data in which two of colors R, G, and B have their maximum values, and wherein the dark color material and the light color material are mixed in the second mode.

42. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus of claim 30, wherein the primary color data is a color data in which two of colors R, G, and B have their maximum values, and wherein the dark color material and the light color material are mixed in the second mode.

43. (Previously Presented) The image processing apparatus of claim 30, wherein the first mode is a mode for lowering granularity and the second mode is a mode for color matching.

44. (Previously Presented) An image processing method comprising the steps of:  
converting primary color data into color data for outputting a dark color material only in a first mode, wherein the primary color has any two of maximum values and one of minimum value of colors R, G and B; and

converting the primary color data having any two of maximum values and one of minimum values of colors R, G and B into color data for outputting both the dark color material and a light color material in a second mode, wherein

the color data converted from the primary color data in the second mode is color data for outputting both the dark color material corresponding to a complementary color of the minimum value of colors and light ink material other than the complementary color of the minimum value of colors.

45. (Previously Presented) The image processing method of claim 44, wherein the first mode is a fast printing mode and the second mode is a mode in which image quality is higher than that in the first mode.

46. (Previously Presented) The image processing method of claim 44, wherein the first mode is a mode for lowering granularity and the second mode is a mode for color matching.

47. (Previously Presented) The image processing method of claim 44, wherein the dark color materials are K, C, M and Y inks.

48. (Previously Presented) The image processing method of claim 44, wherein the light color materials are light cyan and light magenta inks.

49. (Previously Presented) An image processing method of forming an image by using dark color materials and light color materials, the method comprising the steps of:

forming an image by using just the dark color material for reproducing primary color data in a first mode, wherein the primary color has any two of maximum values and one of minimum value of colors R, G and B; and

forming an image by using the dark color material and a light color material having a different color from the dark color material for reproducing the primary color data having any two of maximum values and one of minimum values of colors R, G and B in a second mode, wherein

the image formed in the second mode is formed by using both the dark color material corresponding to a complementary color of the minimum value of colors and light ink material other than the complementary color of the minimum value of colors.

50. (Previously Presented) The image processing method of claim 44, wherein the primary color data is a color data in which two of colors R, G, and B have their maximum values, and wherein the dark color material and the light color material are mixed in the second mode.

51. (Previously Presented) The image processing method of claim 49, wherein the primary color data is a color data in which two of colors R, G, and B have their maximum values, and wherein the dark color material and the light color material are mixed in the second mode.

52. (Previously Presented) The image processing method of claim 49, wherein the first mode is a mode for lowering granularity and the second mode is a mode for color matching.

53. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable recording medium encoded with computer-executable instructions for performing an image processing method, the method comprising the steps of:

converting primary color data into color data for outputting a dark color material only in a first mode, wherein the primary color has any two of maximum values and one of minimum value of colors R, G and B; and

converting the primary color data having any two of maximum values and one of minimum values of colors R, G and B into color data for outputting both the dark color material and a light color material in a second mode, wherein

the color data converted from the primary color data in the second mode is color data for outputting both the dark color material corresponding to a complementary color of the minimum value of colors and light ink material other than the complementary color of the minimum value of colors.

54. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable recording medium encoded with computer-executable instructions for performing an image processing method of forming an image by using dark color materials and light color materials, the method comprising the steps of:

forming an image by using just the dark color material for reproducing primary color data in a first mode, wherein the primary color has any two of maximum values and one of minimum value of colors R, G and B; and

forming an image by using the dark color material and a light color material having a different color from the dark color material for reproducing the primary color data having any two of maximum values and one of minimum values of colors R, G and B in a second mode, wherein

the image formed in the second mode is formed by using both the dark color material corresponding to a complementary color of the minimum value of colors and light ink material other than the complementary color of the minimum value of colors.